

Did You Know?

- According to statistics compiled by the National Insurance Crime Bureau, a motorcycle is stolen every 7.5 minutes in the United States.
- Motorcycle theft rose 135% between 2000 and 2005, with more than 70,000 motorcycles stolen in 2005 alone.
- Professional thieves, not would-be joy riders, are responsible for most motorcycle thefts and generally seek specific motorcycles or motorcycle parts that are in great demand.
- Only 25-30% of stolen motorcycles are recovered because criminals can easily alter, camouflage or reuse various motorcycle parts and frames.



Crime Prevention Tips From
National Crime Prevention Council
1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW, 13th Floor
Washington, DC 20036
www.ncpc.org

**If your motorcycle is broken into or stolen,
inform local law enforcement immediately.
Stolen vehicles are often used in the commission
of another crime. Quick action may not only
aid in the recovery of your motorcycle, but also
prevent its use for illegal purposes.**

PHONE NUMBERS Emergency - 911

Non Emergency Police Line
(775) 334-2121

www.reno.gov


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MOTORCYCLE SECURITY



Reno Police Department

MOTORCYCLE SECURITY

Simple Precautions



If you own a motorcycle and want to keep it, the Reno Police Department is suggesting a number of simple steps that can help thwart would-be thieves.

- Lock the ignition and remove the key. Many bike thefts occur when the ignition is shut off, but is not locked.
- Lock the forks or disc brakes with heavy-duty locks that have large, brightly colored tags.
- Add an audible alarm to your motorcycle. This might not thwart a professional thief, but it may ward off the amateur and can also alert witnesses who can provide identifying and other information to the police.
- If you are riding alone, lock your motorcycle to a secure, stationary object that can't be easily dismantled. When in a group, lock your motorcycles together.
- Park in a secure and well-lit area. If in doubt, do not park there.
- Keep an eye on your motorcycle when parking at a public event. Check on it periodically, especially after just leaving it to make sure there are no suspicious individuals lurking around.

- When you are traveling and spending the night at the motel, locate an outdoor security camera, then park and lock your motorcycle in view of the camera. If this isn't possible, park your motorcycle as close to your room as possible.
- If your bike is not garaged, keep it covered; non-name brand covers are preferable to prevent advertising the type of bike that lies beneath.
- If you park your motorcycle in a garage, try to block the path of the motorcycle with vehicles and make sure the garage door is closed and locked securely.
- Make sure you keep your motorcycle registration and proof of insurance on your person when you ride, and never store the title to your motorcycle in a storage compartment, tank bag or saddlebag.
- Be careful about giving out private information that can lead thieves to where your motorcycle is parked, such as where you live, work or play.
- Vary your routes and routines to prevent being followed.

Avoiding Fraud & Theft

While these measures can help prevent motorcycle theft, the Reno Police Department also urges motorcycle owners to use caution when selling motorcycles to avoid fraud and outright theft.

- Using fake identification has become common in many motorcycle thefts. Ask the buyer for their name, address, date of birth and driver's license number, then ask to see the driver's license and check that the information given matches the license. Be especially cautious of anyone who presents out-of-state identification.
- Make sure the potential buyer wasn't dropped off by another person, and is planning to take a one-way test ride of your motorcycle and not returning. Verify that the potential buyer owns the vehicles they arrived with, and that the vehicle is of equal or greater value than your motorcycle. And, make sure the potential buyer's driver's license carries a valid motorcycle endorsement.
- Never turn over the title to your motorcycle until you can verify the check or money order is valid and has cleared the bank. Mail the title to the new owner. A written document signed by the seller and the buyer indicating price and method of payment can serve as temporary proof of purchase.
- If you decide to sell your motorcycle on consignment, make sure the dealership is reputable, and never provide the signed title to the dealership until you have received full payment for your motorcycle.